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NEWS AROUND THE CLOCK philly.com

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SUMMARY OF MUELLER REPORT

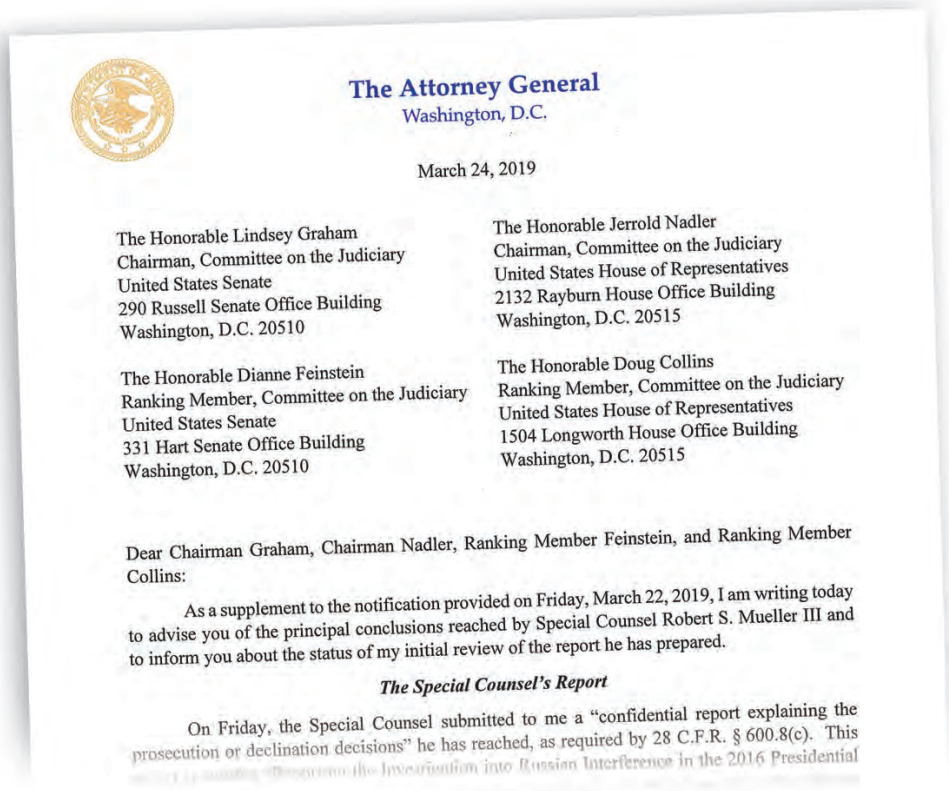
NO EVIDENCE OF CONSPIRACY

Trump claims "total exoneration."

No determination on obstruction.

Fight over report is far from over.

Excerpts From Barr's Letter to Congress



The Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

March 24, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
2132 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Doug Collins
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
1504 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graham, Chairman Nadler, Ranking Member Feinstein, and Ranking Member Collins:

As a supplement to the notification provided on Friday, March 22, 2019, I am writing today to advise you of the principal conclusions reached by Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III and to inform you about the status of my initial review of the report he has prepared.

The Special Counsel's Report

On Friday, the Special Counsel submitted to me a "confidential report explaining the prosecution or declination decisions" he has reached, as required by 28 C.F.R. § 600.8(c). This report is entitled "Report on the Investigation into Russian Interference in the 2016 Presidential

On Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign:

The Special Counsel's investigation did not find that the Trump campaign or anyone associated with it conspired or coordinated with Russia in its efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

On Mueller's not drawing a conclusion on whether Trump obstructed justice:

The Special Counsel states that "while this report does not conclude that the President committed a crime, it also does not exonerate him."

On Barr's decision not to charge Trump with obstruction of justice:

Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein and I have concluded that the evidence developed during the Special Counsel's investigation is not sufficient to establish that the President committed an obstruction-of-justice offense.

SOURCE: Department of Justice

JOHN DUCHNESKIE / Staff Artist

By Devlin Barrett and Matt Zapotosky
WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — Special counsel Robert Mueller did not find that Donald Trump or his campaign schemed with Russian efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election, according to a summary released Sunday that the president immediately embraced as a "complete exoneration" even though Mueller reached no conclusion about whether the president obstructed justice.

After a nearly two-year investigation, Mueller's findings seemed to dispel the cloud of conspiracy that has hung over the administration since its inception. But by delivering caveats alongside conclusions, the closing of the Mueller investigation opens the door to fiercer political fights over the president's judgment and power.

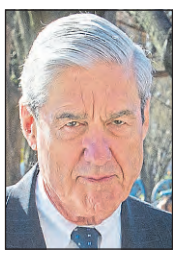
The four-page summary issued Sunday by Attorney General William Barr declared: "The Special Counsel's investigation did not find that the Trump campaign or anyone associated with it conspired or coordinated with Russia in its efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election."

The letter notes that Mueller's probe said no such conspiracy was found "despite multiple offers from Russia-affiliated individuals to assist the Trump campaign."

Barr said he and Justice Department officials separately determined that there was insufficient evidence to make an obstruction accusation against the president — though Mueller was not definitive on that point.

Trump spoke to reporters at a Florida airport

See **MUELLER** on A6



Robert Mueller, special counsel.

William Barr, attorney general.

INSIDE

▶ Text of Barr's letter to Congress. **A4**

▶ Mueller absent from letter. **A8**

▶ Diplomats react. **A4**

Republicans jubilant, Democrats skeptical

By Jonathan Tamari
WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Democrats from the Philadelphia region and across the country vowed Sunday to continue investigating President Donald Trump and to seek more information about what special counsel Robert Mueller found in his inquiry into potential coordination with Russian operatives and questions of obstruction of justice.

They called for more details even as the president and his allies reveled in what Trump considered "complete and total exoneration" from a four-page summary released by Attorney General William Barr.

Democrats immediately focused on Barr, questioning how the Trump appointee had concluded that there were no grounds for charging the president with obstruction of justice even as Mueller was inconclusive on that issue.

They called for a review of the underlying evidence gathered by Mueller, while largely ignoring the special counsel's conclusion, as summa-

See **REACTIONS** on A6

Sen. Cory Booker

U.S. Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick

Investigations, divisions won't end

By Marc Fisher
WASHINGTON POST

ANALYSIS

WASHINGTON — Next, more of the same, but with more entrenched division, a bitter crossfire of allegations, and then, finally, a reckoning in the form of the 2020 presidential election.

The long-awaited conclusion of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election is unlikely to crack congressional Republicans' wall of support for President Donald Trump, dampen Democratic demands to hold Trump to account, or shift public opinion, according to historians and politicians who have studied past national scandals.

Mueller's conclusion — he did not find sufficient evidence to say that Trump committed a crime, but he also will not say

See **ANALYSIS** on A8

VIDEO GAMING

Esports to get its own local eseats

The Phila. Fusion are to get a $50M arena near the other stadiums.

By Bob Fernandez
STAFF WRITER

Comcast Spectacor, which owns the Flyers, is to announce Monday morning that it will construct the first arena for gaming fans in the U.S. for the Comcast-owned Fusion, company officials say.

The $50 million project is a testament to the surging popularity of esports, in which players compete in video games before large crowds. The company plans to break ground this summer on part of the 47-acre stadium complex site that Comcast Spectacor leases in South Philadelphia. The 3,500-seat arena will rise on a parking lot, next to Xfinity Live! and within walking distance of the Linc, Citizens Bank Park, and the Wells Fargo Center.

Nate Nanzer, commissioner of the 20-team Overwatch League, said there has never been a special-purpose esports arena "built anywhere. This is a huge step for esports. This is something we will see pop up all over the world."

Besides housing Comcast's Fusion, one of the Overwatch League's teams, the venue is planned to be a major east coast hub for gaming events, company executives said.

The arena will mark the third major project that Comcast Spectacor is now undertaking on the site. It is renovating the Wells Fargo Center for $250 million and seeking tenants for a 10-story office tower, costing

See **ARENA** on A2

A rendering of the Fusion Arena, to be announced Monday. The 3,500-seat arena will be next to Xfinity Live! It is said to be the first special-purpose esports arena "built anywhere." Comcast Spectacor / Cordish / Populous

SPECIAL SECTION | THURSDAY

Schedules, rosters, and a look at how the Phillies were rebuilt.

WEATHER

High 55, Low 32

AccuWeather report, **D8**

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